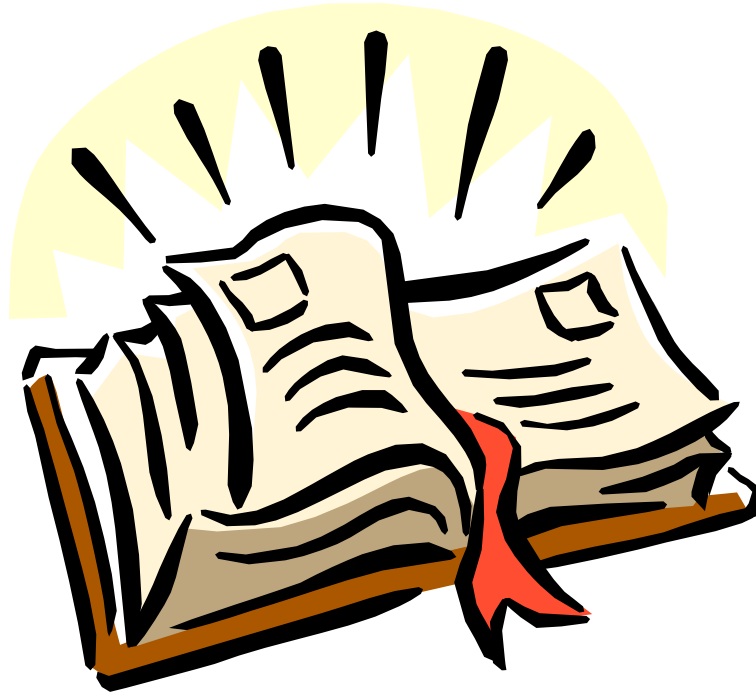


# Bible Time for Kids!



**CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:**

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**LESSON TITLE:** Through the Roof

**THEME:** We walk by faith, not by sight.

**SCRIPTURE:** Mark 2:1-12

# Dear Parents...

Welcome to Bible Time for Kids! Bible Time for Kids is a series of daily devotions for children and their families. Our purpose is to supplement our Sunday morning curriculum and give you an opportunity to encourage your children to develop a daily devotional life. We hope you and your family will be blessed as you study God's Word together.

This week in Children's Church we learned about the four friends who lowered the paralytic man **through the roof** to be healed by Jesus. The theme was "**we walk by faith, not by sight.**" It's exciting to know that God sent His son to die on the cross to forgive us of our sins. By trusting and putting our faith in Christ our life will be filled with peace. Great News!!!

Sin is like a sickness in our life. Just like the paralyzed man we can have our sickness (sin), healed or forgiven by putting our trust in Christ and asking Him to forgive us. Our faith will be tested at times but through Him we can get through anything.

The section of scripture that we studied was **Mark 2:1-12**. The following five devotions are based on either the scripture and/or the theme for Sunday's lesson. As a starting point it would be good for you to review these verses with your children.

These devotions are designed to help you reinforce Sunday's lesson throughout the week with your children, provide some more ideas for the application of God's Word in your children's lives and provide a tool to help in family devotions.

Obviously children at various age levels will respond to the devotional in different ways. You may want to add your own ideas to these to make them more age appropriate.

May the Lord bless you as you study His Word together!

# Faith to Believe

**Text: Hebrews 11:1** - "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

**Also read Mark 2:3-5**

The word had spread through Capernaum about a great man by the name of Jesus who was a miracle-working Teacher. The crowds were very large as they gathered to hear and see the works of Jesus Christ. Jesus knew these people were there to see Him heal the sick and cast out demons. He only wished that they were there to hear His message of the Gospel. But He knew that many were there only to see what was going on and didn't have a real interest in His message. But there were 4 friends of a man who had a lot of faith in Jesus. These 4 men and their friend are the ones that we are learning about this week as we see how that they walked by faith, not by sight.

The 4 men took their friend to be healed by Jesus. The man who was to be healed was a paralytic, which means he could not move his arms or legs. These men arrived to find an enormous crowd of people trying to get to Jesus. There was no way they could get through the crowd to bring their friend to be healed. Just think how easy it would have been to turn away from the crowd and say, "Well, there is no sense in trying to get to Jesus today! Maybe we can come back tomorrow." But these four men had the **faith to believe** that Jesus could and would meet their friend's need.

These men worked together and dared to do something different and trusted that Jesus would heal their friend. The four men decided to lower their friend through the roof to get him to Jesus so He could heal him; and Jesus did. In Mark 2:5 the Bible says, "Jesus saw their faith." To have faith in Jesus means to have and to put your trust in Him and He will take care of you no matter what your condition is. Do we look at our problems and feel defeated or do we look at our problems in light of Jesus and what He can do?

- Do you trust in Jesus when problems come into your life?
- Have you or someone you know been miraculously healed?
- What pleases God? Read Hebrews 11:5-6

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Faith:** Trusting in God. Knowing that He can do all things that seem impossible to us.

# Walking on Water

**Text: Philippians 4:13** - "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

**Also read Matthew 14:28-33**

Jimmy was outside during recess playing with his friends Tommy and Michael. Tommy and Michael wanted to do something that was against school rules. They wanted to leave the campus and go across the street to the grocery store to buy some candy. Jimmy knew this was a wrong choice. Jimmy told Tommy and Michael to wait until after school to buy the candy. But the boys didn't like that idea. Jimmy was able to stand strong in his faith in Jesus and he chose not to go with Tommy and Michael. What could have happened to Jimmy if he chose to go with the other boys? Let's look at what happened to Peter when he took his eyes off of the Lord?

As you read about Peter in Matthew 14:28-33 you learn that he took a step of faith and boldly stepped out of the boat and onto the water. Peter actually walked on water because he had trust in Jesus. But once the wind increased Peter took his eyes off of Jesus and focused on the wind. What happened? Peter began to sink.... But you notice Peter called out to Jesus before he sank: "Lord, save me!" Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"

Peter did begin to sink but he knew that Jesus could save him. When you are faced with difficult times such as peer pressure (friends trying to get you to do what you know that you shouldn't) do you call out to the Lord or do you sink? Being a Christian can be difficult at times. Especially when you try to do what is right when your friends want to do what's wrong. By keeping your eyes on Jesus you too can show others your faith and that gives God the glory!

- Have you ever been in a situation where your friends tried to pressure you into something? How did you handle it?
- Who are the only two people in the Bible to walk on water?
- Why did Peter take his eyes off of Jesus?

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Trial:** When God allows temptations, hardships, or our relationship with other people to test our faith.

# Faith is Trusting in a Great Big God!

**Text: Hebrews 6:6** - "But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."

**Also read Genesis 22:1-19**

Mr. Johnson and his family lived in a beautiful two-story home with a nice pool and spa. They were able to do a lot of extra things like go to the movies, go on weekend getaways, and do a lot of fun things. The Johnson family had their own restaurant business and it was quite successful. They enjoyed working in the restaurant business and the family loved helping out at the restaurant. They were very happy with their lives and wouldn't change it for anything.

One day God spoke to Mr. Johnson's heart and told him He had a plan for him to go to a different country to do missionary work. Mr. Johnson was a faithful servant and loved the Lord very much. He was excited to be called to become a missionary. But the kids didn't want to leave their friends and comfort in the United States to go to Peru at first. God's plan didn't excite them very much, but they knew it was in God's hands and they trusted in Him. The living conditions in Peru were pretty rough. They would have to sell everything before leaving for Peru. The Johnson's did as God had planned for them and they received rewards greater than anything material they could have received here. After a few years serving in Peru, all the kids can look back on their experience with great joy and would not trade it for anything.

When our faith in God shows that He is first in every area of our life we please Him. As you read Genesis 22:1-19, think about how important Isaac was to Abraham. Abraham had faith and trusted in God. He wanted to please God rather than please himself. Sometimes in our relationship with the Lord, He might have a plan for us which means that we may have to give up something else in order to do it. But, He never has us do anything that He does not bless us over and over for our obedience. When we experience these times we grow as Christians.

- After reading Genesis 22:1-19, Do you think your faith is strong like Abraham's?
- Would you leave something you love doing for the Lord?

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Abide:** To rest or dwell in God's will. Obedience

# Forgiven or Healed?

**Text: Mark 2:5-** "When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven you."

**Also read Isaiah 1:16-20**

When the roof opened up the 4 men lowered their friend down to where Jesus was. They were very bold to go upon a house and open the roof while Jesus was inside. They knew that Jesus would help their friend if they could just get him to Jesus; so they did something that no one else would probably dare to do. Just think, there were probably people who were turned away because of the crowds and they missed the opportunity of being healed and forgiven of their sins.

It is interesting that when Jesus saw the man who needed healing that He said, "Son, your sins are forgiven you." Jesus went to the most important issue first. We can learn from this story that sin can paralyze us just like the man who was a paralytic. Jesus is the only one who can forgive us from our sins. He is truly God, and since He is God He has the power to forgive sin. This man was not only healed because of his faith in Jesus, but he was saved and forgiven by believing in Jesus.

We will be forgiven of our sins if we would just come to Jesus and ask Him to forgive us and trust in Him. Then we will no longer be paralyzed in our lives by sin. God has promised us that when we come to Him and repent He would forgive our iniquity and our sins will be remembered no more (Jeremiah 31:34). This man walked away a brand new person in body and in spirit. Jesus knows exactly what we need. If you have never trusted in Him for your salvation our prayer is that you would ask Him into your heart today. God is full of grace and mercy and would love for you to come to Him.

- Have you ever asked Jesus to come into your life?
- Are there friends or family members you have who you would like to pray for to receive Jesus? The man in our story would have never made it to Jesus if his friends had not helped him.
- When others see you, do they see Jesus at work in your life?

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Forgiven:** Pardoned, released or let go of. Free from the penalty of sin.

# Which Is Easier?

**Text: Mark 2:9** - "Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise, take up your bed and walk?'"

**Also read Mark 2:6-12**

Jesus looked around the room and saw the religious leaders sitting there watching to see if He could heal someone, but more important to them if He would break one of their rules that they added to the Bible. These religious leaders were known as Scribes and Pharisees and they supervised the religious life in the nation that Jesus was teaching in. They came to make fun of Jesus and try to put him to a test. Instead they should have come with an open heart that was seeking truth. They were jealous of Jesus and wanted to find a way to make Jesus look bad in front of the people. Jesus was so popular that the religious leaders could not ignore Him.

When Jesus looked into the hearts of these leaders He saw emptiness and a mean spirit. They accused Jesus of blasphemy. After all, only God can forgive sins; and Jesus just told the paralytic that his sins were forgiven! Jesus was claiming to be God! Jesus proved to be God by reading the scribes hearts and telling them what they were thinking.

Jesus gave them something to think about. Which one is easier for Jesus; to heal the man or to tell him he is forgiven? It's easier to say; "Your sins are forgiven!" After all, that is what the man truly needed. His body could get sick again and he would even die. But what he really needed was eternal life. So to back up His words Jesus healed the man and told him to pick up his bed and to walk home. What was going through the minds of the Scribes and Pharisees? Could they heal this man and forgive his sins? NO WAY! Jesus confirmed Himself as being the "Son of God." He said in another place, "I and My Father are one." (John 10:30).

- Sin is like sickness and forgiveness is like having your health restored.
- Why do you suppose that the Scribes and Pharisees didn't like Jesus?

## Kid's Prayer Time



There is a lot that we can be thankful for. This week when you pray you can thank God for sending His son to pay the price for your sins. We can come to Him to repent and He will restore our life. Jesus is truly the Son of God and by us trusting in Him He will lead our paths straight. (Proverbs 3:5,6)

# Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

"Immediately he arose,  
took up the bed and went  
out in the presence of  
them all, so that all were  
amazed and glorified God."

Third Grade and Above

"Immediately he arose,  
took up the bed and went  
out in the presence of  
them all, so that all were  
amazed and glorified God."

Mark 2:12a